GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6942
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
PER CAPITA AVAILABILITY OF WATER
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita annual availability of water;

(b) the lowest and the highest average availability of water in the country with locations/ areas;

(c) the per capita availability of water according to international norms; and

(d) the regions/districts where water is considered to be scarce, State-wise ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) As per the latest assessment (1933) made by the Central Water Commission (CWC), the average annual water availability in the river-systems of the country is assessed at 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM).The per capita water availability in the year 2001 is 1820 cubic metre per year on a national level. The lowest per capita average availability of water in the country is estimated as 298 cubic metre annually in Sabarmati basin and the highest per capita average availability of water in the country is estimated as 16,990 cubic metre annually in Minor River Basins Draining into Bangladesh & Myanmarfollowed by 13,636 cubic metre annually in Brahmaputra-Barak Sub-basin.

(c) According to the international criteria, a situation of annual per capita availability of water of less than 1000 cubic metre is considered as scarcity condition.

(d) The availability of water is assessed river basin-wise. Accordingly, the per capita water availability in the Sabarmati basin; Area of Inland Drainage in Rajasthan Desert; East flowing rivers between Pennar and Kanyakumari; Pennar; West flowing rivers of Kutchh, Saurashtra including Luni; Cauvery basin; East flowing rivers between Mahanadi and Pennar; Tapi and Mahi river basins is lessthan 1000 cubic metre annually. The River basin-wise water availability & per capita availability is given at Annex.

ANNEX

RIVER BASINWISE WATER AVAILABILITY AND PER CAPITA AVAILABILITY

(Annex to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.6942 for answer on 13-5-2002)

River Basin	Average Annual Water Availability (Billion Cubic Metre)	Per Capita availability in the year 2001 (m3)
Area of Inland Drainage in Rajasthan Desert	Negl.	
Sabarmati	3.81	298
East Flowing Rivers between Pennar and Kanyakumari	16.46	301
Pennar	6.32	535
West Flowing Rivers of Kutchh, Saurashtra including Luni	15.1	562
Cauvery	21.36	599
East Flowing Rivers between Mahanadi and Pennar	22.52	784
Tapi	14.88	826
Mahi	11.02	863
Krishna	78.12	1056
Subarnarekha	12.37	1082
Ganga-Brahmputra-Barak Basin	525.02	1202

a. Ganga sub-basin		
b. Brahmaputra & Barak sub-basin	585.60	13636
Indus	73.31	1438
Godavari	110.54	1683
Mahanadi	66.88	2067
Brahmani & Baitarni	28.48	2388
Narmada	45.64	2552
West Flowing Rivers from Tapi to Tadri	87.41	2785
West Flowing Rivers from Tadri to Kanyakumari	113.53	2862
Minor River Basins Draining into Bangladesh and Myanmar	31.00	16990
Total (National)	1869.35	1820

Note: Totals may not tally due to rounding off